b[1].2 Harbors, Navigable Rivers, Channels

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throughout the region and are especially concentrated at Stavropol', Georgiyevsk, Nevinnomyssk, and Budennovsk, where flour milling, oil pressing, canning, dairying, wool washing, cotton ginning, and wine making are the principal activities.

Of special importance in the economy of the region are the health and tourist resorts. One of the most important resort areas of the USSR lies in the foothills of the Greater Caucasus. There the resort cities of Zheleznovodsk (ferruginous springs), Pyatigorsk, Yessentuki, and Kislovodsk are linked by an electrified branch with the main Rostov-Baku railroad at Mineral'nyye Vody. The bottling of mineral waters is a major export industry.

For communications the region relies chiefly on the Rostov-Baku trunk line, from which branches penetrate into the remote sections to Divnoye, Blagodarnoye, Budennovsk, and into the foothills of the Caucasus to Ust'-Dzhegutinskaya and Kislovodsk. The Sukhumi military road, one of the three pass roads through the mountains, continues from the Nevinnomyssk-Cherkessk-Ust'-Dzhegutinskaya rail branch through the valley of the Kuban' and the Teberda rivers, and enters the territory of the Georgian SSR at Klukhori. Of extreme importance for the future development of the region will be the final realization of the Manych Canal project linking the Caspian and the Black seas. Prior to the Second World War, the waterway had been canalized for a distance of over 150 miles eastward to the area of Divnoye. Due to destruction caused by the war, several reservoirs were emptied, and the canal installations fell into disuse. Small-scale reconstruction has been undertaken since the war; however, the completion of the project will have to await a future Plan.

Stavropol', the center of the kray, was known as Voroshilovsk from c. 1935 until 1943. It lies in the chief grain area of the region and has flour mills, a meat-packing plant, wool and leather industries, and produces chemicals and lumbering machinery. The vicinity of the city will benefit immeasurably from the new Nevinnomyssk Canal which will provide irrigation to this drought-ridden section.

Pyatigorsk, in the midst of five mountains (whence its name), of which the Besh-Tau and the Mashuk are best known, is the center of the four resort cities of the Northern Caucasus. Its warm sulphur springs and mud baths are much frequented. Next in size is Kislovodsk, at an elevation of 2,695 feet, with carbonated springs. Yessentuki, west of Pyatigorsk, has salt and alkaline springs, and Zheleznovodsk, to the